

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 109485  
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 PM-04 ACDA-07 MC-02 CIAE-00  
INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 INRE-00 NSC-05  
NSCE-00 /058 R

DRAFTED BY OSD/ISA:RJEFFERSON:MEM  
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OSD/ISA:GEN. BOWMAN  
EUR/RPM:JAFROEBE,JR.  
EUR/RPM:DSKINNEY  
EUR/WE:EROWELL  
EUR/CE:LHEICHLER

-----141728Z 004026 /66

O P 141702Z MAY 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY  
DA PRIORITY  
USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY  
USDOCOSOUTH PRIORITY  
CINCLANT PRIORITY  
USLOSACLANT PRIORITY  
DISTR ASD:ISA J5

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 109485

HOLD FOR OPENING OF BUSINESS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MASS, MPOL, NATO, PO

SUBJECT: TANKS FOR PORTUGAL

REFS: A. USNATO 03187, DTG 121857Z MAY 77; B. BONN 05704,  
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DTG 311531Z MAR 77; C. EUCOM 041003Z FEB 77; D. DA 031600Z  
FEB 77

1. THE FRG REQUEST FOR AN OFFER FOR QTE PLANNING PURPOSES  
UNQTE ON CONVERSION OF M48A2 TO M48A5 TANKS WAS FORWARDED  
TO SECDEF AND SEC ARMY ON 31 MARCH 1977 (REF B). SINCE  
UNDER OUR MAP AND FMS PROCEDURES, DATA FOR QTE PLANNING

PURPOSES UNQTE ARE BEST ESTIMATES ONLY, PREPARED WITHIN 30 DAYS AND WITHOUT CONTACTING THE CONTRACTORS, WE FELT THAT THE DATA PROVIDED BY REF C AND D WERE ADEQUATE FOR THE FRG'S PURPOSE. INASMUCH AS THERE IS AN ONGOING PRODUCTION LINE FOR RETROFIT OF THE M48A1 TANK TO M48A5, AND AGAINST WHICH TO COMPARE COSTS, THE ESTIMATES ALREADY PROVIDED ARE PROBABLY QUITE GOOD, PARTICULARLY FOR PLANNING PURPOSES.

2. NEVERTHELESS, AS A RESULT OF FURTHER CONTACTS BETWEEN DA AND ODC, EMBASSY BONN, DEFENSE HAS DIRECTED DA TO PREPARE, ON AN EXPEDITED BASIS, LETTERS OF OFFER (LOA) FOR RETROFITTING 17 FRG M48A2 TANKS AT (A) ANNISTON,

ALABAMA, OR (B) IN THE FRG. UNDER FMS PROCEDURES, THE PRICES INDICATED ON LOAS ARE STILL ESTIMATES, ALTHOUGH REFINED ON THE BASIS OF INPUTS FROM VARIOUS SUB-CONTRACTORS. UNDER EXPEDITED PROCEDURES, ARMY ANTICIPATES IT WILL HAVE SOMEWHAT MORE REFINED PLANNING DATA BY 19 MAY AND COMPLETED LOAS WITH STILL MORE DETAILED DATA BY 1 JUNE. WE WILL FORWARD THESE NEW FIGURES TO EMBASSY BONN AS SOON AS THEY ARE AVAILABLE.

3. ALL CONCERNED SHOULD BE AWARE THAT COSTS IN LOAS WILL NOT REPEAT NOT INCLUDE THE COST OF RADIOS, INSTALLATION HARNESSSES, MACHINE GUNS, OTHER ANCILLARY EQUIPMENT OR SPARE PARTS. WE ASSUME THAT THE FRG IS PLANNING TO PROVIDE ALL OF THIS EQUIPMENT.

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4. WE ARE READY TO SUGGEST TO THE FRG OUR WILLINGNESS TO DIVERT 17 M48A5 TANKS FROM ANNISTON IF THE FRG SO DESIRES, BUT WE WISH TO DO SO IN A MANNER THAT WILL NOT GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT WE ARE PREEMPTING THEIR PROPOSED CONTRIBUTIONS TO PORTUGAL'S NATO BRIGADE.

5. MISSION IS REQUESTED TO CONVEY OUR POSITION ARTICULATED ABOVE TO APPROPRIATE LEVEL IN FRG MISSION. IF POSSIBLE, WE HOPE THAT AGREEMENT ON AT LEAST ESSENTIALS OF THIS QUESTION COULD BE REACHED BY SECRETARY BROWN AND MINISTER LEBER DURING THEIR BILATERAL MEETING THIS COMING WEEK.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PROPOSALS (BID), MILITARY SALES, TANKS (COMBAT VEHICLES)  
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**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1977STATE109485  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2522520  
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**TAGS:** MASS, MPOL, PO, US, NATO  
**To:** NATO BRUSSELS  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009